

KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH)

Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2024

Commissioners' Auditorium

10:00 am

Present

Board of Health (BOH): Cory Wright, Laura Osiadacz (Webex), Danielle Bertschi, Linda Navarre

Absent: Brett Wachsmith, Dede Utley

Public Health: Candi Blackford, Chelsey Loeffers, Erin Moore, Jesse Cox, Audi Martiniez, Mackenzie Carter, Lianne Bradshaw, Kate Johnson, Mark Larson MD, Katie Odiaga, Kelly Bacon, Lucy Garcia, Cambron Walker

Others: Olivia Barrera, nursing student

BOH meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the February 15, 2024 meeting minutes as presented.

Motion 05.01: Motion to approve the February 15, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. Danielle Berschi moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Linda Navarre second. All approved. Motion 05.01 carried to approve the February 15, 2024 meeting minutes as presented.

Motion to approve March 26, 2024 and April 15, 2024 meeting minutes as presented (meetings cancelled)

Motion 05.02: Motion to approve the March 26, 2024 and April 15, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. Linda Navare moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Danielle Bertschi second. All approved. Motion 05.02 carried to approve the March 26, 2024 and April 15, 2024 meeting minutes as presented.

Public comment open at 10:02am

Public comment closed at 10:02am

Department Updates

Director Update

Mrs. Loeffers reported the following to the board.

Staffing Updates

- Holly Erdman celebrated 36 years of service AND is retiring at end of month – will formally recognize at the next agenda.
- Erin Moore – new Deputy Director and is celebrating 16 years with the department. Mrs. Moore will be overseeing the new PH Infrastructure division, and QI Coordinator and Comms Coordinator when the department fills these positions. Until then Kasey and Lucy remain PIOs.
- Candi also celebrated 16 years with the department in March.

- Kim Shilley is the new EH Specialist.
- Interviews will take place on Friday for the open PH Tech to replace Kim.
- Eddie Vader, WSDVA VSO, is working alongside Timothy Paxton in the Veteran Service Office.
- Final approval from BOCC for Human Service Admin position will hopefully happen this next week with a hire date sometime in the summer.

Departmental Updates

- The department has started taking permit applications online through SmartGov. There will be a full presentation in the future, but huge thanks to Erin Moore for driving this project and the Environmental Health team for all their work implementing this huge improvement for us.
- Cross division team meeting regularly to create Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) of boards and committees. Focusing on Request for Proposals (RFP) process, and communication of existing policy and procedures in Committee handbook.
- Partnering with regional partners on Department of Natural Resources (DNR) grant to purchase more portable air cleaners for community distribution. This is excellent timing to align with our upcoming Air Quality Community Survey.
- Ten Public Health staff completed Incident Command System 400 training. The next step for selected staff is section chief training.

Division + Program Updates

- Health Promotion:
 - Health Promotion and Assessment and Epi recently completed Health Literacy Specialist certification.
 - Audi Martinez presented at the Northwest Rural Health Conference on COVID-19 Health Equity mini-grants project. This project has been recognized statewide for its success.
- Environmental Health:
 - Congratulations to Shane Johnson. He has completed his master's in environmental policy.
 - Staff attended the Washington State Environmental Health Association conference for continuing education and improving relationships with statewide peers.
 - The department will be Rolling out mosquito collection for West Nile surveillance in partnership with Epi. Thank you to Melissa Schumaier and Lianne Bradshaw.
- Communicable Disease
 - The group is working hard on new Syndemic Grant to support harm reduction and syringe services. The grant will increase focus on resource navigation and coordination.
- PH Infrastructure
 - Kasey Knutson hosted a regional Public Information Officer (PIO) event to build relationships before the emergency. There was a great turn out and there was positive feedback.
 - Congratulations to Kelly Bacon for completing the National Emergency Management Basic Academy. This is a huge achievement, requiring significant prerequisites and weeks of academy training.

Health Officer Update

Kate Johnson reported out this month as Dr. Mark Larson was out of town. Mrs. Johnson reported that there is COVID in one long term facility currently. Reminded all to stay home when not feeling well. Mrs. Johnson also noted that COVID rates in hospital are up this month.

Mrs. Johnson reported that Pertussis cases are increasing statewide. There have been 170 people confirmed statewide and that is an increase from 2023 from this time last year. Reminder to get your TDAP/DTAP vaccine updated.

Community Health Assessment Final Report Presentation

Lianne Bradshaw and Mackenzie Carter handed out the final Community Health Assessment report to the board. After lots of time and hard work they were proud to hand this final version out.

Veteran Services Program Update

Removed from agenda.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Foundations Presentation

Kelly Bacon presented on Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response and how public health is expanding our capabilities and resources as a department to be able to better assist the county, our region, and even statewide. Ms. Bacon noted that the department has played a key role in emergency management during county incidents by providing staff to fill important roles. The department has sent several Kittitas County staff to train under the Incident Command System (ICS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS) trainings. Ms. Bacon noted positions in the ICS structure and the different training required to fill these positions. The department is participating in trainings with our community partners to strengthen our relationships and gain better collaboration in the event where we are all called to participate in an event. The department is working on expanding its resources by purchasing items that we will be able to utilize for future events and adding depth to our Emergency Management Team.

Ms. Bacon and Kyra Garnich, Emergency Management Specialist, traveled to the NACCHO Preparedness Conference in Cleveland, OH. The conference focused on improving the capacity of Local Health Jurisdictions/Local Health Departments LHJ/LHD's to be able to meet Center of Disease Control Public Health Emergency Preparedness capabilities.

Other Business

Request to schedule joint BOH/BOCC Public Hearing to consider revisions to Kittitas County Code Chapter 13.04 On Site Sewage Disposal Systems and Kittitas County Code Chapter 13.20 Solid Waste Handling.

Motion 05.03: Motion to approve a request to schedule joint BOH/BOCC Public Hearing to consider revisions to Kittitas County Code Chapter 13.04 On Site Sewage Disposal Systems and Kittitas County Code Chapter 13.20 Solid Waste Handling. Danielle Bertschi moved to approve a request to schedule joint BOH/BOCC Public Hearing to consider revisions to Kittitas County Code Chapter 13.04 On Site Sewage Disposal Systems and Kittitas County Code Chapter 13.20 Solid Waste Handling. Linda Navarre second. All approved. Motion 05.03 carried to approve a request to schedule joint BOH/BOCC Public Hearing to consider revisions to Kittitas County Code Chapter 13.04 On Site Sewage Disposal Systems and Kittitas County Code Chapter 13.20 Solid Waste Handling.

Approval of Board of Health Resolution adopting the Kittitas County Board of Health Bylaws Amendment

Chelsey Loeffers noted that in February the board approved the amended bylaws. Today the department is requesting approval of Board of Health Resolution 2024-001 amending the Kittitas County Board of Health Bylaws.

Motion 05.04: Motion to approve Resolution 2024-001 amendment of the Kittitas County Board of Health Bylaws. Danielle Bertschi moved to approve Resolution 2024-001 amendment the Kittitas County Board of Health Bylaws. Linda Navarre seconded. All approved. Motion 05.04 carried to approve Resolution 2024-001 amendment the Kittitas County Board of Health Bylaws.

Board of Health Member Updates

No updates this month.

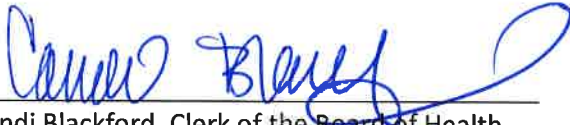
Meeting concluded at 10:46am.



Cory Wright, Commissioner



Chelsey Loeffers, Director
Kittitas County Public Health



Candi Blackford, Clerk of the Board of Health